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Florence, Dec. 30. *N. S.*

A *Flushing* Privater has lately taken in these Seas a *French* Merchant Ship laden with Corn and Wooll, to the Value of 20000 Pieces of Eight, which he has sent to *Porto Ferraio*; but he has brought to *Leghorne* the *French* Seamen that were taken Prisoners on board her. There are several of those Privateers cruizing in these Parts, which causes a great Interruption in the *French* Commerce to the *Levant*.

Rome, Dec. 30. Great Application is made to the Pope, particularly by the Prince of *Belvedere*, and his Brother the Duke of *Monteleone*, to promote Signior *Pignatelli*, who resides at present as his Nuncio in *Poland*, to the Archbishoprick of *Naples*; and it is said he is also supported by the Emperor's Interest. The Imperial Ambassador does not yet come to Court, but the Affairs of the Emperor are managed by Abbot *Tucci*, who is one of his Councellors of State. Cardinal *Medicis* is declared Protector of the Affairs of *France* and *Spain* at this Court, and at the same time that he took this Office upon him, the *French* King gave him a very rich Abbey. The Duke of *Aitona*, the Marquis of *Escalona*, Son to the Vice-Roy of *Naples*, and some other *Neapolitan* Noblemen, who attended the King of *Spain* during his stay at *Milan*, arrived here lately from thence, in their way home.

Venice, Jan. 5. Prince *Eugene* having made the necessary Dispositions for the Safety of *Ostiglia*, and the other Posts where the Forces under his Command are at present, he came hither *incognito* on the 30th past, and very early the next morning went from hence Post for *Vienna*, in order to lay before the Emperor an Account of the Posture of his Affairs in *Italy*. General *Staremberg*, who, in his Highness's Absence, has the chief Command of the Imperial Army, has taken his head Quarters at *Ostiglia*, and has caused a Line to be made from the Tower of *Saravello* to that Place, for its greater Security. It is said a Body of 5000 *French* is ordered to march towards that Post, with intent to attack it, but the Ways from the *French* Quarters thither are unpassable, and the *Germans* are so well provided with all manner of Necessaries for their Defence, that it is believed this Expedition will have the same Success with another which they lately made towards the Country of *Trent*; A Body of them passed over the Lake *de Guarda* in Boats, in order to have landed at *Riva* or *Torbole*, but they found the Militia and Inhabitants of that Bishoprick upon their Guard, and so were forced to return without putting their Design in execution. The *French* have bombarded *Bersello* for some days, but without any effect, and the Garison of that Place, which consists of 800 Men, is said to be sufficiently furnished with Provisions and Ammunition, so that it will not easily be reduced. A Body of 500 *Germans* has taken Post at *Ponte-Molino*, and they are fortifying that Place.

Thoorn, Jan. 1. The *Muscovite* Ambassador had Audience yesterday of the King of *Poland*, and delivered to him a Letter from the Czar his Master, giving the King an Account of his having taken *Nettebourg*. The Conferences at *Warsaw* between the Cardinal Primate and the Emperor's Minister, and other Persons of Quality, in order to procure a Peace between the Kings of *Sweden* and *Poland*, are continued, but we have not yet any Account of what Progress they have made in that Affair. The City of *Lublin* appointed lately two Deputies to wait upon the King of *Sweden*, in order to desire an Abatement of the Sums of Money demanded of them in his Name by the way of Contribution; but they were not able to obtain Audience, and are since come to *Warsaw*, where Deputies are expected from several other Palatinates, the Cardinal Primate having writ to them, desiring their Advice in this difficult Juncture of Affairs. In the mean time the *Swedish* Army moves towards *Prussia*, by very slow Marches, being divided in Four Bodies, to the end they may with more conveniency be supplied with Provisions and other Necessaries; and besides the furnishing thereof, they oblige the Country through which they pass to pay them great Contributions. The King of *Sweden* is supposed to be at *Caximir*, in which Place, according to our last Accounts, he intended to continue till the 6th Instant, and then to proceed to *Warsaw*.

Ratisbonne, Jan. 11. The Imperial Diet has not met since the Holidays. The Imperial Forces which are to be employed against the Elector of *Bavaria* are advancing towards the Frontiers of his Country, and above 15000 of them are already got together in the *Upper Austria* and the Archbishoprick of *Saltzbourg*, who wait only for good Weather to enter upon Action. The Circles of *Swabia* and *Francosnia*, to secure themselves against the Excursions of that Elector's Forces, have posted both their regulated Troops and their Militia along their Frontiers, which amount altogether to 40000 Men; and the Passes between *Bavaria* and the *Bodenzee* are carefully guarded by several Bodies of Imperial Troops.

Berlin, Jan. 13. The King of *Prussia* has given Orders for new Levies to be made, intending to add two Troops to each Regiment of his Cavalry, and as many Companies to each of those Regiments of his Infantry as serve at present on the *Rhine*; and it is said he designs also to take some Foreign Troops into his Service. Monsieur *d'Alefeldt*, Envoy of *Denmark*, is to have publick Audience of the King and Queen of *Prussia* the 15th Instant. The King holds his Resolution of going to *Magdebourg* in few days, but it is doubted whether the Duke of *Wolfembuttel* and the Landgrave of *Hesse-Cassel* will come thither, a Dispute having happened about the Ceremonial to be observed in such an Interview, which will not easily be adjusted; but the Hereditary Prince of *Hesse-Cassel* will be there, with the Princess his Wife, who is Daughter to the King of *Prussia*. The Prince Royal of *Prussia* intends to accompany the Queen his Mother to *Hanover*.

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